

Message Text

SECRET

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64

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01

CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 RSC-01

/039 W

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O R 292208Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8446

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

S E C R E T TEGUCIGALPA 4645

LIMDIS

GUATEMALA PASS ROCAP

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, ES, HO

SUBJECT: CONTINUING GOH CABINET CRISIS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 4591

BEGIN SUMMARY: CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ HAS NOT YET REQUESTED ALL MINISTERS TO RESIGN (SEE REFTEL). MINLAB FONSECA STATED THAT HE HAD AGAIN REQUESTED LOPEZ TO RELIEVE HIM OF HIS GOVERNMENT POSITION. END SUMMARY.

1. RUMORS CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE THAT CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ HAS ASKED ALL OF HIS CABINET MINISTERS TO RESIGN. HE TOLD AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ IN A CONVERSATION ON OCTOBER 25 THAT HE INTENDED TO ASK FOR THE RESIGNATIONS BUT DID NOT SPECIFY

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WHEN HE WOULD DO SO. MINLAB FONSECA INFORMED POLOFF ON

OCTOBER 29 THAT LOPEZ HAD NOT YET ASKED FOR THE RESIGNATIONS.

2. FONSECA TOLD POLOFF THAT HE HAD AGAIN TALKED TO LOPEZ IN REGARD TO HIS RESIGNATION. FONSECA SAID HE HAD TOLD LOPEZ THAT PRIVATE SECTOR AND POLITICAL PARTY OPPOSITION TO HIS ACTIONS DURING HIS TENURE AS MINLAB MADE IT ILL-ADVISED TO REAPPOINT HIM TO ANOTHER CABINET POSITION. FONSECA SAID THAT HE HAS DEFINITELY DECIDED NOT TO ACCEPT ANOTHER GOVERNMENT POST.

3. COMMENT: THE LACK OF ANY OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON CABINET RESIGNATIONS HAS CONTINUED TO FUEL SPECULATION AND RUMORS. THE OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN USING THE CABINET CRISIS TO PAINT THE REGIME AS INCOMPETENT AND INDECISIVE. THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT A CONTINUANCE OF THE PRESENT UNDEFINED SITUATION CAN DO LITTLE BUT REINFORCE THIS VIEW BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND EXTERNALLY.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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